

on communications networks and make policy recommendations to the President and Congress.

I. PRESIDENTIAL POWER

The President may waive provisions of this Act with a finding of danger to national security, public safety, economic security, or public interest. President must report waiver to Congress in classified or unclassified form w/I 30 days of Presidential action.

J. MISC

- (1) Severability.
- (2) Interpretation: Will not affect intelligence activities outside USA; and will not weaken intellectual property protection.
- (3) Definitions.
- (4) Dates of regulations.
- (5) Authority for fees.●

TRIBUTE TO ALEX HENLIN, BISHOP GUERTIN SENIOR, AND WINNER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION'S NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST.

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Alex Henlin, a Bishop Guertin High School senior, on winning the American Legion's National Oratorical Contest. This is certainly an accomplishment of which he should be very proud and I salute him for his achievement.

Alex, 18, resides in Dracut, MA. He is president of his senior class and plans to study government next fall at Georgetown University. He was one of the State's representatives to the American Legion's 1996 Boys' Nation conference in Washington.

His speech, "A More Perfect Union," reported the U.S. Constitution as being a versatile, living document able to address unforeseen circumstances. Alex warned that amendments should not be created to address trivial issues. As a former history teacher, I admire and commend Alex's commitment to our Nation's most precious document.

Alex brought home an \$18,000 college scholarship in addition to a \$2,000 scholarship he received from the State contest. The national contest was hosted by Indiana University and Purdue University in Indianapolis.

I congratulate Alex Henlin on his outstanding accomplishments. I commend his hard work and perseverance and wish him luck at Georgetown in the fall semester.●

BAXTER BLACK COMMENTARY ON RANCHERS IN THE DAKOTAS

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, livestock producers across the Dakotas have suffered immeasurable losses this winter. Baxter Black, cowboy poet and commentator on National Public Radio, wrote a touching piece describing the struggles of ranchers facing the realities of the season's severe weather. National Public Radio aired the commentary on April 23.

Mr. President, I ask that the following transcript of Mr. Black's commentary be printed in the RECORD.

The transcript follows:

WE UNDERSTAND

Repeat after me: I do solemnly swear as shepherd of the flock to accept the responsibility

for the animals put in my care, to tend to their basic needs of food and shelter, to minister to their ailments, to put their well being before my own if need be, and to relieve their pain and suffering up to, and including, the final bullet. I swear to treat them with respect, to always remember that we have made them dependent on us, and therefore have put their lives in our hands, as God is my witness.

Helpless. The worst winter in Dakota's memory. Cattle losses already predicted up to 50,000 head. And how did they die? From exposure and lack of feed. Basic needs—food and shelter. And now the flooding.

You think those Dakota ranchers said, "Well, I'll just close down the store and put on the answering machine, we'll wait'll the storm blows over, no harm done?"

No, they couldn't. Wouldn't.

"Charlie, you can't go out there. The cows are clear over in the west pasture. You can't even see the barn from here." But he tried anyway. Tried to get the machinery running, tried to clear a path, tried to load the hay, tried to find the road.

These are not people who live a pampered life. These are not people who are easily defeated. These are not people who quit trying. But days and weeks on end of blizzards, blowing snow, and fatal wind chills took their toll.

Cattle stranded on the open plains with no cover, no protection, no feed, no place to go, and no relief from the Arctic fury died in singles and bunches and hundreds and thousands, frozen as hard as iron.

And back in the house sat the rancher and his family, stranded, unable to do what every fiber in their bodies willed them to do, knowing that every hour he could not tend his cows diminished him in some deep, permanent, undefinable way, changing him forever.

The losses will eventually be tallied, the number of head, and extrapolated to dollars. But dollars were not what kept him pacing the floor at night, looking out the window every two minutes, walking out in it 50 times a day, trying, trying, trying, knowing if he could only get to them he could save them. And then finally having to face the loss, his failure as a shepherd. That's what kept him trying. Exhausting, depression, and despair.

It's hard to comfort a person who has had his spirit battered like that. "It couldn't be helped, there's nothing you could do," is small consolation.

So, all I can say to our fellow stockman in the Dakotas is, in our own way, we understand.●

TRIBUTE TO GARY HODSON ON BEING NAMED THE 1997 SOMERSWORTH CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Gary Hodson, postal carrier of Somersworth, on being named the Citizen of the Year by the Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce. I commend his outstanding community commitment and congratulate him on this well-deserved honor.

Gary's community involvements are numerous but his special dedication was directed to youth. Gary serves as director of youth education at Holy Trinity Church and volunteers teaching on evenings and weekends. He is president of the baseball, football, and hockey boosters.

Gary is known to many as always willing to take responsibility to make

his community a better place to live and raise children. He puts forth his time and energy to help the youth of the community. Whatever he commits to, he always gets the job done.

Gary has dedicated his time, talent, and energy to serving the residents of Somersworth in an exemplary way. I am proud to honor Gary Hodson's outstanding community commitment, which is so important to the youth and their future. We are indeed indebted to him for his efforts. Congratulations to Dan for this distinguished recognition. I am honored to represent him in the U.S. Senate.●

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION—THE TRUTH

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I would like to submit the following testimony for the RECORD. Dr. Curtis Cook is a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist and a subspecialist in maternal-fetal medicine in Michigan. In March, Dr. Cook testified before the House-Senate joint hearing on "Partial-Birth Abortion—The Truth." His expert testimony speaks to both the medical necessity of the partial-birth procedure and the issue of fetal pain during the procedure.

The testimony follows:

TESTIMONY BY CURTIS COOK, M.D., MATERNAL FETAL MEDICINE, BUTTERWORTH HOSPITAL, MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE OF HUMAN MEDICINE

My name is Dr. Curtis Cook. I am a board-certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist and a subspecialist in Maternal-Fetal Medicine (also known as Perinatology or High Risk Obstetrics). In my practice I take care of referred complicated pregnancies because of preexisting chronic medical conditions of the mother, or suspected abnormalities in the baby. I am also the Associate Director of our region's Maternal-Fetal Medicine division and also serve as Assistant Residency Director for our Obstetrics and Gynecology training program. I am an Assistant Clinical Professor at Michigan State University of College of Human Medicine, and a member of the American College of OB/GYN, The Society of Perinatal Obstetricians, The American Medical Association, and the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics. I am a founding member of PHACT (Physicians Ad Hoc Coalition for Truth about Partial Birth Abortion), which I helped organize after hearing the appalling medical misinformation circulated in the media regarding this procedure. PHACT includes in its membership over 400 physicians from Obstetrics, Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Pediatrics. Many of these physicians are educators or heads of departments, and also include the former Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop. All that is required of a physician for membership in an Interest in maternal and child health, and a desire to educate the population on this single issue.

I must begin my statement by defining partial birth abortion as the feet first delivery of a living infant up to the level of its after coming head, before puncturing the base of its skull with a sharp instrument and sucking out the brain contents, thereby killing it and allowing the collapse of its skull and subsequent delivery. This description is based upon the technique of Dr. Haskell of Ohio, who has subsequently identified it as accurate. He has referred to his technique as